

REFERENCE



October 5, 2005

## COEUR D'ALENE TRIBE

CHIEF J. ALLAN, CHAIRMAN  
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The Honorable C.L. "Butch" Otter  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Congressman Otter:

On behalf of the Coeur d'Alene Tribe (Tribe), I am transmitting this letter to convey the Tribe's support for continued discussion on **S.1439**, the *Indian Trust Reform Act of 2005*. The Tribe has been working cooperatively with the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians (ATNI) in the discussion surrounding S.1439. We remain committed to the process of reviewing and revising the legislation as needed in order to provide a fair and equitable settlement of the *Cobell* litigation and realizing trust reform so that the Department of the Interior has some level of accountability to the respective stakeholders.

The Tribe supports the overall intent of **S.1439**, which is to ensure accountability for management of trust resources and settlement of a longstanding litigation that has provided no concrete remedies to any of the parties involved. The six titles of the legislation have been discussed internally at the ATNI and specific recommendations have been forwarded on to Congress for consideration. The Tribe requests that the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs hold a hearing as soon as is practicable to discuss the recommendations so that the quest to accomplish trust reform proceeds forward.

The Tribe will continue to work cooperatively with the ATNI and other stakeholders as we move ahead in addressing perhaps the most significant piece of legislation to affect Indian Country in the last quarter of a century. The Tribe is prepared to commit the effort and vigilance that will be needed to get a final version of the legislation, which will truly accomplish the lofty goals that it seeks to finalize. I look forward to the upcoming debate and discussion. Should you need further information or require additional dialogue, please contact the legislative director, Quanah Spencer, by telephone at (208) 686-0803 or e-mail at [qspencer@cdatribe-nsn.gov](mailto:qspencer@cdatribe-nsn.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chief J. Allan".

Chief J. Allan, Chairman  
Coeur d'Alene Tribe

Cja:qms